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## INFORMATION REPORT

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Research Work Supervised by the Russians at Bitterfeld

1. For a period of over two and one-half years the Research and Development Laboratory of Elektrochemisches Kombinat Bitterfeld (EK3) was under the direct supervision of Lt. Col. Engelin (fmu). 1/ Belayev (fmu)<sup>2</sup>, then General Director for the Russian-administered Central German Industries (sic) and later General Director of Bitterfeld, came to the Research and Development Laboratory periodically to check the progress of the work being conducted there. On these visits he usually inspected the laboratory facilities and then proceeded to the Office of Dr. Udo Ehrhardt, the German Laboratory Chief, to discuss current research programs which required attention. Ehrhardt was notorious among the German staff as being a "Russenfreund" (friend of the Russians).

Research Project # 5

2. The program in which Lt. Col. Engelin was directly interested and which fell under his jurisdiction was known as Research Project # 5. The attendant research work covered a period of approximately two and one-half years, from 1946 until mid-1948. It called for the development of a method of dechlorinating sodium hydroxide through the use of liquid ammonia (Entchlorierung von Natronlauge mit fluessigem Ammoniak), a process which originally had been patented in the United States. Engelin was directly concerned with this program and worked closely with the laboratory staff for the entire period during which it was under study.
3. Research Order # 5 was repeated at Bitterfeld during the first three months of 1953 on orders of Dr. Ehrhardt, who received the originating order for a re-run of the laboratory work from a Russian Research Commission stationed at Leuna. Source was not familiar with the membership of this commission and was unable to state whether any of the Russians now at Leuna were members of the staff originally at Bitterfeld. Although Ehrhardt is no longer head of the Research and Development Laboratory, he was placed in charge of this short-term program because of his previous connection with the original work and his familiarity with the problem.

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Soviet Personnel at Elektrochemisches Kombinat Bitterfeld

4. The following are leading Russian personnel at EKB:

a. The name of the Russian who held the post of Soviet General Director of EKB in 1946 is not known.

b. Belayev (fmu) - in 1946 was General Director for the entire complex of Central German Industries administered by the Russians.

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c. Starostin (fmu) - in 1946 was Deputy Director of EKB. Starostin succeeded Belayev as General Director in 1951 and was still at Bitterfeld as of 1 May 1952, when the plant was returned to the Germans and transferred to the status of a VEB. No description of him is available.

d. Engelin, Lt. Colonel (fmu) - was already stationed in the Bitterfeld plant at the end of 1945. He always came to the plant in the uniform of a Red Army officer. He was first seen in the laboratory in early 1946. Engelin was either a "Techniker" or an Engineer. He appeared to supervise some independent unit not directly connected with the Soviet Administration of the Bitterfeld plant. It is believed that Engelin's office was located in the main administration building at Bitterfeld. In addition to the Sodium Hydroxide Dechlorination project, Engelin also supervised several other research projects which were conducted in other laboratories throughout the Elektrochemisches Kombinat, as well as some research conducted in the plant itself. Neither the exact locations of the laboratories of direct interest to Engelin nor the type of research conducted there is known. The reasons for Engelin's interest in them are also not known. Engelin was always very interested in the German personnel working for him, exhibited a very friendly attitude toward the laboratory employees, made inquiries concerning the salaries they received, and generally indicated a personal interest in their welfare. The employees working on research projects directly for the Russians received supplementary ration cards, and Engelin was interested in seeing to it that the Germans received their full allotment of rations, salary, etc., in the interests of the fulfillment of obligations contracted for by the Soviets.

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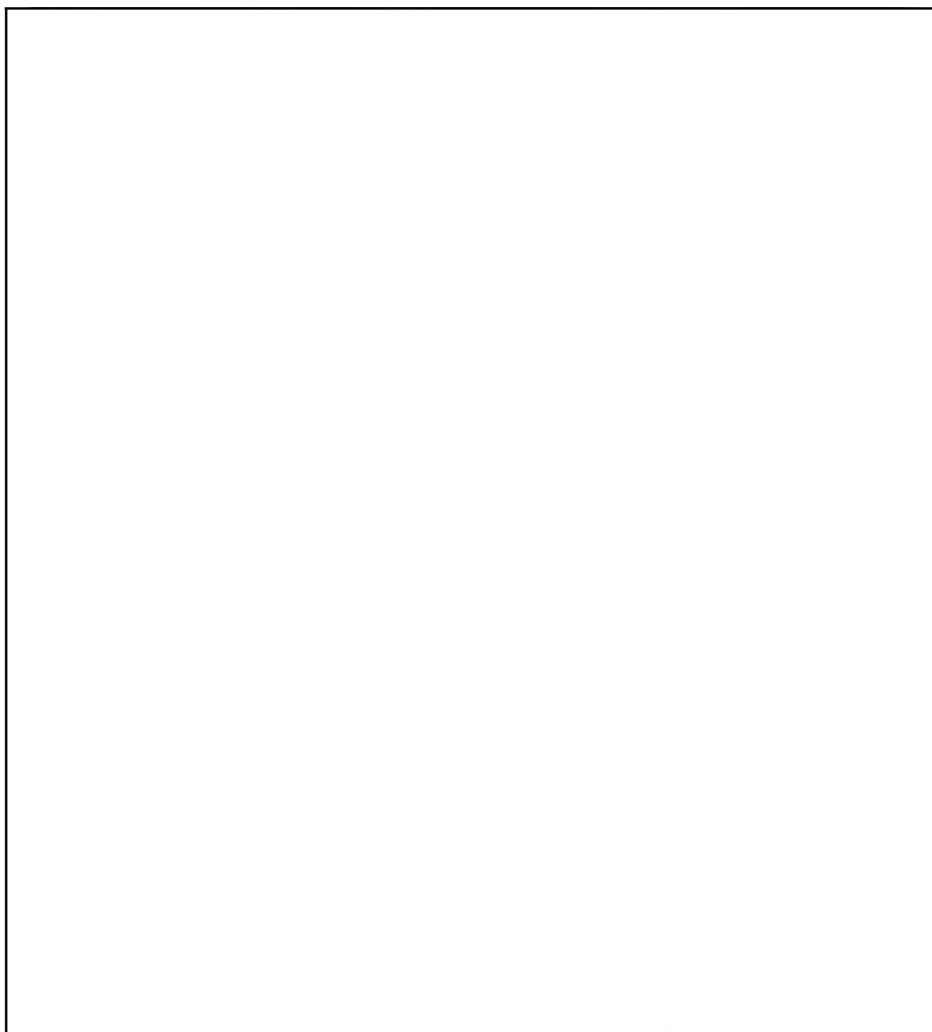
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Organization of the Bitterfeld Plant

4. The following is the organization of LKB:

a. Werk Nord produces:

- (1) Synthetic jewels
- (2) Molybdenum
- (3) Sodium Hydroxide - Electrolytic process using mercury and sodium chloride.

b. Werk Sud produces:

(1) Inorganic Department:

- (a) Permanganates Section
- (b) Potassium Carbonate ( $K_2CO_3$ ) Section
- (c) "Chromat" Section (Potassium Sodium Bicarbonate) ( $KNaCO_3$ )
- (d) Sodium Hydroxide - Electrolytic process (same Section as Werk Nord, but larger installation)
- (e) Titanium Dioxide Section
- (f) Chlorates Section (Potassium Chlorate, Sodium Chlorate)
- (g) Red and Yellow Phosphorus Section

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Organization of the Bitterfeld Plant

5. The following is the organization of IKB:

a. Werk Nord produces:

- (1) Synthetic jewels
- (2) Molybdenum
- (3) Sodium Hydroxide - Electrolytic process using mercury and sodium chloride.

b. Werk Sud produces:

(1) Inorganic Department:

- (a) Permanganates Section
- (b) Potassium Carbonate ( $K_2CO_3$ ) Section
- (c) "Chromat" Section (Potassium Sodium Bicarbonate) ( $KNaCO_3$ )
- (d) Sodium Hydroxide - Electrolytic process (same Section as Werk Nord, but larger installation)
- (e) Titanium Dioxide Section
- (f) Chlorates Section (Potassium Chlorate, Sodium Chlorite)
- (g) Red and Yellow Phosphorus Section

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## (2) Organic Department

- (a) "Hexa-Betrieb" - exact details were not known to source
- (b) Benzyl Chloride (Chlor-Benzyl, may also be Chlor-Benzol)
- (c) Carbon Tetrachloride
- (d) Polyphenylchloride

## (3) Acids Department

- (a) Oxalic Acid Section
- (b) Hydrochloric Acid Section (Salpetersaure Abt.)
- (c) Kalk-Ammon Salpetersaure Section

## (4) Synthetics Department

- (a) Igelit - produces Igelit in hard and soft form and also produces consumer items of Igelit.
- (b) Vinidur - also produced for commercial resale as well as consumer item production.

(5) Handwerker Betrieb (machine and artisans' shops)

- (a) Carpenter Shop (Zimmerei)
- (b) Machine Shop (Schlosserei)
- (c) "Bauhof" (construction yard)
- (d) Precision Machine Shop (Feinmechaniker Werkstatt)
- (e) Power Installation (Grosskraftwerk)

## (6) Light Metals Department - At present produces nothing but consumer goods, smelting, scrap metal and discarded aircraft parts for the salvaging of aluminum, magnesium, and alloy metals. This plant utilizes salvaged scrap metal for production of household items, such as pots, bedsteads, bicycle carts, bicycle tire rims, etc.

6. At present there is no production of pure calcium at Bitterfeld, nor are any preparations being made for resumption of this production in 1953. The pure calcium production program ran from 1946 to 1948 at Bitterfeld, but it has not been resumed since then. During this period it was produced in the Light Metals Department, the present German Chief of which is Dr. Wehner (fmu). Wehner, and Dr. Forst or Forster, who are both still at the plant, were connected with this program. Wehner now is head of the Zentrales Forschungs Laboratorium (Central Research Laboratory). Dr. Forst's present position is not known.

German Personnel at Bitterfeld

7. The following are leading EKB German personnel:

- a. Walter Bunge - Chief of the Main Laboratory, Research Department.

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b. Kurt Schwalm - Chief of the Experimental Department of the Main Laboratory. [redacted]

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c. Dr. Walther J. Heyder - the present German General Director of Elektrochemisches Kombinat Bitterfeld. He has held this post for about one year, previously having been Chief of the Inorganic Department. He holds the degree of Dr. of Engineering.

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d. Dr. Ehlers (fmu) - Deputy General Director of EKB. He was Chief of the Inorganic Chemicals Department from 1950 until early 1953, at which time he was appointed to the position of Deputy General Director. He was also plant manager of Werk Nord at one time.

d. Dr. Mueller (fmu) - Commercial Director. No further details known.

e. Dr. Siebold (fmu)<sup>h</sup> - his actual position is not known. Siebold reportedly makes regular business trips to West Germany.

f. Dr. Bopp (fmu) - Chief of the Inorganic Department since early 1953. Bopp formerly was "Gruppenleiter fuer einzelne Betriebe."

g. Dr. Usnig (fmu) - Plant manager (Werksleiter) for Werk Nord. He is an elderly man, rather tall, with a very slender build.

h. Dr. Pritze (fmu) - Betriebsleiter of the Potash (Potassium Carbonate) Section of the Inorganic Department. [redacted]

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i. Dr. Marktl (fmu) - Betriebsleiter of the "Chromat" Section of the Inorganic Department. [redacted]

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j. Dr. Mehlhorn (fmu) - Former Head of the Sodium Hydroxide Installation; fled to the West around Christmas 1952. He was replaced by Dr. Bornhack.

k. Dr. Bornhack (fmu) - present Betriebsleiter of the Sodium Hydroxide installations in both Werk Nord and Werk Sued. No further details are known.

l. Ingenieur Kirst (fmu) - former Betriebsleiter of the Titanium Oxide Section of the Inorganic Department. He has held this position for only about two to two and one-half years. He came to EKB from Aken Leichtmetall Betrieb. [redacted]

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1/ [REDACTED] Comment: Engelin is undoubtedly identical with Lt. Col. Engelin (inu), a member of the special Russian staff at Elektrochemisches Kombinat Bitterfeld, which supervised the pure calcium production program.

25X1A 2. [REDACTED] Comment: [REDACTED] reports Dr. Vladimir Vasilyevich Belyayev, 1945 as General Director of EKB from 1949 to 1951.

25X1A 3. [REDACTED] Comment: Listed as received.

25X1A 4. [REDACTED] Comment: Possibly Dr. Otto Siebold [REDACTED]

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